Advisory Update NCVPS Advisory Council Newsletter • September 20, 2024

## Greetings from NCVPS!

We are thrilled to present our **September Advisory Council Newsletter,** which is filled with updates on our latest initiatives and programs! In this edition, you will find information on**Empowering Educators: Utilizing AI** for professional development for NCVPS teachers. We also highlight student achievements, teacher recognitions, district and school outreach, and a variety of professional development opportunities for educators across the state.

We are eagerly anticipating our **Advisory Council meeting** on **October 15, 2024**. Our combined efforts are paving the way for impactful educational experiences, and we are enthusiastic about the opportunities ahead. Thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter. We greatly value your feedback and insights as we continue to work toward our shared goals.

With appreciation and gratitude,

Mia

## News to Know Now

## NCVPS Edvantage Tutoring 2024-25 Schedule

**Recent Posts:**

Sept. 3 - The Standard Start No-Show Report was posted in the NCVPS Registration System

Sept. 12 - Progress Reports were posted in the NCVPS Registration System

**Action Steps:**

What should your action steps be with our progress reports? We’re glad you asked! Visit our [Progress Report Action Steps page](https://hxtpa5qab.cc.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=00142Pq265lp2oVJ8ACfateieRJ3q3S_zXYajTOR5uL8AfY8qt5IQaYGxNKicYvVWHufgRCPIioPrihR-CUTnqJgs4rcRPWDTUbRbNlcoP4ydxMYj0Zdp3vST0Ew5cBxhW3OjuPJGytLYX30xvc9yOXL1BL3U8H3Qit8RHem2ujceGF3mZ3LNfjgQ==&c=wEOIMTiJCuWpkPS0oLTIqXz92kNZ6wG3hwAkR7KAPHIU3DqO6_d6gg==&ch=3Ge_-si3fPhh_lt1z7GBeMt-MHGM3u4UL3EOxlHF1XsYXEwLde6PIQ==) for all the details.

### Snapshot of NCVPS Grading Guidelines

See our [Snapshot of NCVPS Grading Guidelines](https://hxtpa5qab.cc.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=00142Pq265lp2oVJ8ACfateieRJ3q3S_zXYajTOR5uL8AfY8qt5IQaYG94fJC_HGH3_QVS-EaJtshUv8Q5tCc7Yr2ZFPRXdU0ooF0-xqobmpgFTEGIc-PuhCO6wUO2aMxXYI1BTe8rJOves__K3ieQ6UuSjdbRtfC-yk9LYej9dA5fd7croacD2FVLrDjYGkc0Qebp2mB4_Cnw=&c=wEOIMTiJCuWpkPS0oLTIqXz92kNZ6wG3hwAkR7KAPHIU3DqO6_d6gg==&ch=3Ge_-si3fPhh_lt1z7GBeMt-MHGM3u4UL3EOxlHF1XsYXEwLde6PIQ==) for a quick overview of NCVPS's grading and testing policies and procedures. Please note that NCVPS teachers must adhere to the NCVPS grading guidelines, practices, and procedures, which can be found in our [Grading and Testing Quick Reference Guide](https://hxtpa5qab.cc.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=00142Pq265lp2oVJ8ACfateieRJ3q3S_zXYajTOR5uL8AfY8qt5IQaYG2RNS11k7sihCkz5tLsXXAGYoIUSrcrpZAHysDmLJDqHSSck_KcTijv9_dFWR9IOWusumSjYDk3qHq5kCXv8cP_5YJVijH8oUpTtd98seN254t9lrS8wtYdDPU_4E1XLJH03I9HFYxje5vIDdaNkqvGC5VdKeymGhbNwjQzwzHPCwc26Xjf80_kDFsgc-8waAC95dpCN-NmMaDEXNdeYYQM=&c=wEOIMTiJCuWpkPS0oLTIqXz92kNZ6wG3hwAkR7KAPHIU3DqO6_d6gg==&ch=3Ge_-si3fPhh_lt1z7GBeMt-MHGM3u4UL3EOxlHF1XsYXEwLde6PIQ==). NCVPS teachers cannot adjust their NCVPS grading guidelines, practices, and procedures based on a local school's or district's policy.

### Reporting Overview

See our [Grades and Testing Quick Reference Guide](https://hxtpa5qab.cc.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=00142Pq265lp2oVJ8ACfateieRJ3q3S_zXYajTOR5uL8AfY8qt5IQaYGwgFiMlBV3RhAs2Nu2ieuFP_58g6YnqZ-Ds4Llwo5rZG43XxSvV7yYjoJrPeyKsX3wnrSDlFJYuS2Z0XSk-xsMr9PaLkUl2ukvB8iPC98Vg7_69lkOiXoDh1ck1Zxq55ETldPGzInnOdsgUqs4iEcU8Xwrr0aOT54TaXjlP4wWKvTPWpVfoxSbd9z5lt3CNxGg==&c=wEOIMTiJCuWpkPS0oLTIqXz92kNZ6wG3hwAkR7KAPHIU3DqO6_d6gg==&ch=3Ge_-si3fPhh_lt1z7GBeMt-MHGM3u4UL3EOxlHF1XsYXEwLde6PIQ==) for an overview of our reporting. We have details on our Student Status (No-Show) Reports, Progress Reports, Final Grade Reports, and how we calculate grades.

## Leveraging NCVPS Webinar

Our third annual webinar, *Leveraging NCVPS to Provide High-Quality Instruction to All Students*, took place on **July 30th & 31st**. Topics included NCVPS courses, the educators who lead them, our support systems, and professional development opportunities. We also shared exciting new programs and discussed our funding formula to ensure transparency.

## Empowering Educators: Harnessing AI: Recap

On August 9, NCVPS held an event titled "Empowering Educators: Harnessing AI," the first of many events in a series of upcoming AI professional development offerings. The event was a success, helping educators understand how to incorporate AI into their teaching. The day featured live, interactive workshops led by renowned speakers:

* **Jon Fila**, an award-winning educator, presented “Unprecedented (Again),” where he discussed the disruptive potential of AI in shaping the future of education.
* **Adam Renfro** led “The AI Mindshift: Empowering Educators,” providing a hands-on session on how AI can enhance classroom teaching and address concerns.
* **Dr. Chris Smith** explored “Next-Gen Inclusivity,” focusing on the use of AI and Open Educational Resources (OER) to design inclusive learning environments that cater to diverse students.

This event marked the beginning of more AI-focused sessions throughout the year. Stay tuned for future opportunities!

## NCVPS Super Students

**Meet Super Student Anika D!**Anika writes, “Taking these courses allowed me to understand the material in a more thorough and personal way, which helped me to not only pass the classes, but rather ensure that it remained in my mind. Thus, I feel that the freedom associated with NCVPS courses taught me how learning can be done in a variety of ways and how it can advance our knowledge in ways that we would not otherwise have imagined.” - Anika D.

**Meet Super Student Sunni A!** Sunni writes, “Online courses made it easy for me. It is easy because I know where everything is. I feel like I can take my time with it and learn at my pace” – Sunni A. Her teacher adds, "Sunni is a super student in Blended English I! I always look forward to opening her work. She goes above and beyond to ensure what she submits represents her best effort. Even though I’ve never met her, I can tell she has a bright future!” – Laura Woodard, NCVPS Blended English Instructor

Read more about Anika, Sunni, and all our Super Students on our [Super Students page](https://ncvps.org/super-student-awards/).

## NCVPS Teacher Spotlight

### Ashley and Chad Holloman Recognized

NCVPS animal science teachers Ashley and Chad Holloman were recognized at the 2024 Career and Technical Education (CTE) conference BFM opening session on July 15 in Winston Salem, NC. Ashley is a finalist for the 2024 Burroughs Wellcome Fund NC Career and Technical Education Teacher of the Year Award, presented by the North Carolina Center for the Advancement of Teaching. Chad, who is also an NCVPS Instructional Leader, is a 2024-2025 NCACTE Leadership Fellow. Congratulations to both!

### Crissie Rickets

Crissie co-authored "Fast Track to a 5: AP Precalculus," to be published this fall by Cengage/National Geographic Learning. Crissie is an NCVPS Math and AP instructor.

### Dr. Carrie Jones

Dr. Jones is on the Board of Directors for the NSTA (National Science Teachers Association) - Middle Level Division Director. She teaches Sciences and Honors for NCVPS.

### Ashton Allgood-Batten

Ashton is Onslow County Schools' STEM Teacher of the Year. She also teaches Science for NCVPS.

## NCVPS Staff Spotlight

## AI Expert Adam Renfro Shares Insights on Leadership in Education

NCVPS Outreach & Support Coordinator Adam Renfro has co-developed and authored ["The AI Mindshift - Elevating Leadership in the Age of Intelligence"](https://myemail-api.constantcontact.com/The-AI-Mindshift--Elevating-Leadership-in-the-Age-of-Intelligence.html?soid=1134260919248&aid=w4bhsUS3WDw) for the Setzer Group's Wayfinder Blog.

Adam's efforts are focused on understanding and addressing the evolving dynamics of modern and future work and learning environments. The blog post offers valuable insights for educators navigating the evolving landscape of AI in schools.

### NCVPS Instructional Technology Specialist Angel Morgan Honored

Angel Morgan, an Instructional Technology Specialist at NCVPS, has been honored with the 2024 **Association for Educational Communications and Technology (AECT)**Division of Distance Learning Award for her exceptional contribution to distance education. Angel received the award for her chapter entitled, "Leveraging Generative Artificial Intelligence to Expedite UDL Implementation in Online Courses," featured in the book "Unlocking Learning Potential with Universal Design in Online Learning Environments."

Angel’s chapter delves into how generative artificial intelligence can streamline the application of universal design for learning (UDL) in online courses. By highlighting various AI technologies, Angel demonstrates how generative artificial intelligence (GenAI) can enhance empathy, comprehension, and executive functions, thereby catering to diverse learning needs.

Additionally, the chapter explores the benefits, challenges, and ethical considerations of integrating GenAI into UDL, emphasizing the importance of human oversight and the continuous adaptation by educators to meet students' needs effectively.

This recognition is part of the 2024 Division of Distance Learning Awards. Congratulations, Angel! Your work continues to inspire and innovate in the field of accessibility in online education.

## NCVPS On the Road

### NCVPS Exhibitor and Presenter at The Homeschooling Experience Conference

NCVPS Staff attended, presented, and were vendors at the 2024 Homeschooling Experience Unleashed Conference held June 14-16 in Durham, North Carolina. NCVPS Outreach & Support Coordinator Crystal Pullen presented a session titled "Online Learning: Choosing the Right Fit." The session was well-attended and resulted in lots of positive feedback from attendees. The conference drew attendees from across the nation. The event featured keynote speakers, sessions, a vendor hall, and student activities for North Carolina homeschool families.

### NSPRA Conference

NCVPS staff Mia Murphy and Amber Parker presented 3 Gold Circle sessions titled 'Enlightening Insights: Harnessing Data Visualizations for School District Annual Reports" at the 2024 National School Public Relations (NSPRA) conference in Seattle, Washington July 14-17. The conference is the largest communications-focused professional development event for school public relations professionals, school superintendents and education leaders. Topics include school crises and strategic planning, new and innovative practices in messaging, marketing and engagement, and more.

### Charter School Conference

NCVPS Staff attended, and were exhibitors at the 2024 NC Association for Public Charter Schools "Crowning Achievements" conference held July 21-23 in Charlotte, North Carolina. The event featured keynote speakers, a vendor hall, and over 500 educators, administrators, board members, and legislators in attendance.

### CTE Summer Conference

NCVPS Staff attended and exhibited at the NC CTE Summer Conference July 15-17 in Winston-Salem, NC. The conference is hosted by the NC Department of Public Instruction and the NC Association for Career and Technical Education. Attendees are NC educators who are passionate about Career and Technical Education and who recognize the importance of CTE in our state and in our nation's future. Stephanie Smith, NCVPS physical science teacher stopped by to say hello.

### Chamber Workforce Conference

NCVPS Staff attended the 2024 Chamber of Commerce Education & Workforce Development Conference. NCVPS was a sponsor and exhibitor for the event, held August 29th at the McKimmon Center in Raleigh.

## Quality Matters Update

NCVPS continues to lead the nation in the highest number of [courses certified by Quality Matters in K12](https://www.qualitymatters.org/reviews-certifications/qm-certified-courses). We have 88 courses certified with several courses up for recertification as well as a few new courses. Stay up to date by viewing our [list of QM courses](https://ncvps.org/quality-matters-certified-courses/) on the NCVPS website.

## Upcoming Live NC College Series Iwork NCVPS Events:

**NC Private Universities**

Are you interested in attending one of North Carolina’s private universities? Do you need some tips on the application process or help narrowing down your college of choice? If so, join us for a session with admissions officers from some of NC’s private colleges and universities. High Point University and Lenoir-Rhyne University will have representatives there. They will share valuable information and answer all of your questions.

**Date: Tuesday, September 17, 2024**

Time: 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Where: [IworkNCVPS Zoom](https://ncvps.zoom.us/j/7237398910" \t "_blank)

**NC Public Universities**

Do you need some tips on the application process or help narrowing down your college of choice? If so, join us for a session with admissions officers from The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, North Carolina State University, East Carolina University, and the University of North Carolina at Asheville. They will share valuable information and answer all your questions.

**Date: Tuesday, September 24, 2024**

Time: 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Where: [IworkNCVPS Zoom](https://ncvps.zoom.us/j/7237398910" \t "_blank)

**NC’s Historically Black Colleges and Universities**

Do you need some tips on the application process or help narrowing down your college of choice? If so, join us for a session with admissions officers from Winston-Salem State University and North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University, two of NC’s Historically Black Colleges and Universities. They will share valuable information and answer all your questions.

**Date: Thursday, September 26, 2024**

Time: 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Where: [IworkNCVPS Zoom](https://ncvps.zoom.us/j/7237398910" \t "_blank)

**A Career in Health Equity**

Do you have a passion for equity? Are you considering a career in healthcare? Do you imagine yourself conducting medical research in the future? If so, join us to hear about the work Dr. Allison Caban-Holt does to address deficits in health equity. She also conducts research on Alzheimer’s disease, cognition, Down syndrome, stress measurement, and caregiving.

**Date: Wednesday, October 2, 2024**

Time: 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Where: [IworkNCVPS Zoom](https://ncvps.zoom.us/j/7237398910" \t "_blank)

## September Digital Transition Sessions for Educators

**“Finding and Creating Captions Everyone Can Use”**

Presenter: Ann Spencer. Target Audience: All Are Welcome! CEU Credit type: General  
[**Register for September 12th at 4:00 pm**](https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/8zxkhgv?mode=preview&source_id=4d4cdef1-8b50-47e3-b8d6-3d190690ff11&source_type=em&c=)

**“AI SERIES – Integrating Artificial Intelligence into Your Daily Lessons”**  
Presenter: Brian Harrison. Target Audience: All Are Welcome! CEU Type: General, or CTE.  
[**Register for September 18th at 5:00 pm**](https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/d5g7brf?mode=preview&source_id=4d4cdef1-8b50-47e3-b8d6-3d190690ff11&source_type=em&c=)

**“Science Labs in a Digital World”**  
Presenter: Ann Spencer. Target Audience: All Are Welcome! CEU Type: Science, or General.  
[**Register for September 19th at 4:00 pm**](https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/tvng9ne?mode=preview&source_id=4d4cdef1-8b50-47e3-b8d6-3d190690ff11&source_type=em&c=)

**WORLD LANGUAGE SERIES: “Building Cultural Competence in the World Language Classroom”**  
Presenter: Lisa Worthington-Groce. Target Audience: All Are Welcome! CEU Type: French, German, or General.  
[**Register for September 24th at 7:00 pm**](https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/dha2hag?mode=preview&source_id=4d4cdef1-8b50-47e3-b8d6-3d190690ff11&source_type=em&c=)

**“Personalizing Learning in Canvas”**  
Presenter: Ann Spencer. Target Audience: All Are Welcome! CEU Type: General.  
[**Register for September 26th at 4:00 pm**](https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/zm8e3f7?mode=preview&source_id=4d4cdef1-8b50-47e3-b8d6-3d190690ff11&source_type=em&c=)

**CTE Series: “Behavior Management in Career & Technical Education”**  
Presenter: Allison O’Dell. Target Audience: All Are Welcome! CEU Type: CTE or General.  
[Register for September 30th at 5:00 pm](https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/rf5s56j?mode=preview&source_id=4d4cdef1-8b50-47e3-b8d6-3d190690ff11&source_type=em&c=)

***Sessions this month are presented by:***

**Ann Spencer**- 2024 NCVPS TEACHER OF THE YEAR, NCVPS Instructor: Blended Applied Science, and NCVPS Instructional Leader: Blended Applied Science

**Brian Harrison** - Local LEA Instructor: Intro Principles of IT; Business Ethics; Financial Technology I Honors; and Accounting I

**Allison O’Dell** - NCVPS Instructor: Computer Science; NCVPS Instructional Leader: CTE/Computer Science

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